

North American Dominican Promoters
of Justice, Peace and Care of Creation

SILENT VOICES BIG TRUTHS

Fostering Gospel Justice and One Human Family

Living in Uncertainty

We Hold These Truths to be Self-Evident...

...That the dignity and rights we celebrate as a nation belong to every person, including those seeking refuge and a place to belong.

As we mark World Refugee Day during the 250th anniversary of the United States, we offer this issue of *Silent Voices, Big Truths* to bring humanity to the issue of immigration. It is our hope that by reading these stories and quotes you will learn about the real people and the real lives of those living at the margins. Through the Dominican lens of *Veritas* (Truth) we are invited to reflect on what these stories reveal about our values right now.

Many immigrants have built lives in the United States through legal humanitarian programs such as TPS, DACA, humanitarian parole, and other temporary protections. They have worked, paid taxes, raised families, and became part of their communities.

"People are just afraid of what's going to happen. I feel like that's the worst thing: not knowing what's going to happen. That's what really kills you inside because you want things to be okay, but you don't know what these politicians will actually do."

José S., a DACA recipient

"I no longer know how I am going to provide for my family. I have two children, and one of them needs ongoing medical treatment... it is not enough to pay rent, food, and medical costs."

*A Haitian TPS holder who lost their work authorization
(Human Rights Watch)*

Silent Voices, Big Truths lifts up often unheard voices from immigrant communities through short reflections that invite us to encounter truth through the lived experiences of our neighbors.

BIG TRUTHS

Today, many vulnerable people face uncertainty as these protections are withdrawn or challenged. Families worry about losing the ability to work, being separated from loved ones, or returning to countries still experiencing violence or humanitarian crises. Approximately 330,000 Haitians currently rely on Temporary Protected Status. (Springfield News Sun) Many work in health care, elder care, construction, tourism, and hospitality, contributing billions of dollars annually to local and state economies. This uncertainty affects not only immigrant families but also the communities they help strengthen.

The big truth is this: No one should have to live in constant fear about whether they will be allowed to remain with their family, continue their work, or call their community home.

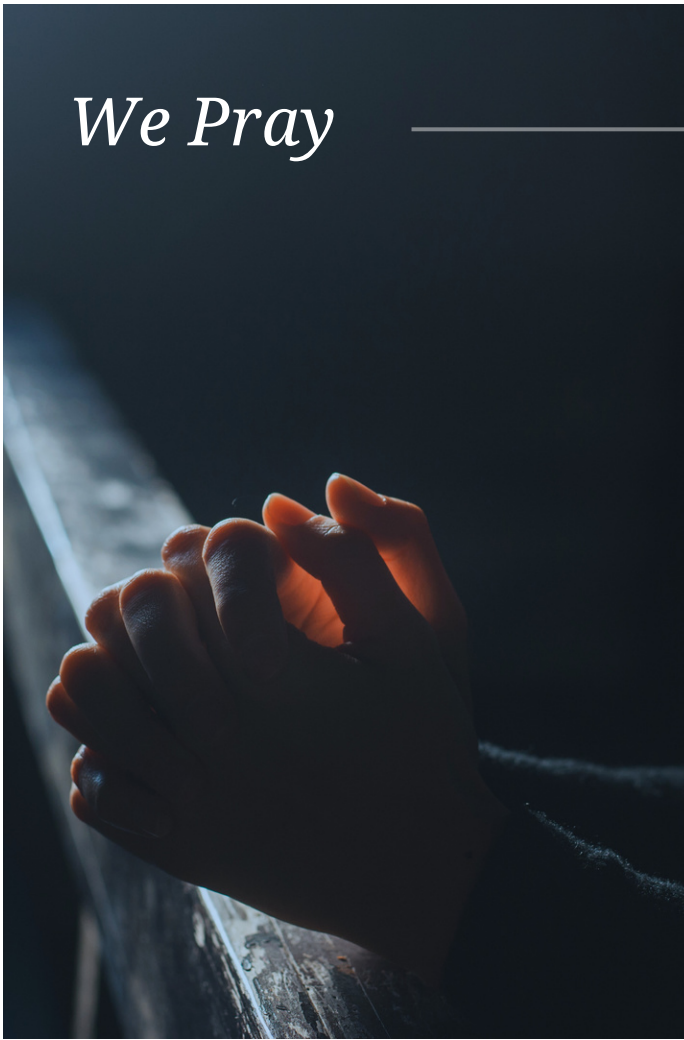
"So, when I hear 'deportation' on the radio, it's very hard. We come to this country to work. We meet the requisites. Pay taxes. And I can't go back to Venezuela."

Garis M., a Venezuelan TPS holder who fled to the U.S. after being kidnapped and later built a business in his new community. (Washington Post)

"I have spent five years living in constant uncertainty, unable to plan for the future and surviving day to day."

A Temporary Protected Status holder

We Pray



Loving God,

We pray for immigrants whose lives are shaped by changes in our nation's immigration policies. Hold close those who face uncertainty about their legal status, their ability to work, and their future in the communities they have come to call home. Guide us to build communities rooted in compassion, justice, and welcome. May we recognize each person as a beloved child of God and respond with courage, mercy, and love.

Amen.



Call to Action



Support S. 4814 to Stand with Haitian Families

On June 25, 2026, the Supreme Court allowed the federal government to proceed with ending Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitian nationals while legal proceedings continue in the lower courts. The Department of Homeland Security recently terminated TPS protections and work authorization for eligible Haitians.

Haiti is facing a humanitarian catastrophe. Forcibly returning thousands of families to Haiti now would not only endanger their lives but would further destabilize Haiti.

Contact your Senators. Urge them to support S. 4814 – legislation requiring the Secretary of Homeland Security to extend Haiti's TPS designation through 2029. The bill already passed the House in March 2026.